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The Ting Laboratory at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Cancer Center and Harvard Medical School is looking for research technician applicants.

The laboratory focuses primarily on translational research projects in gastrointestinal malignancies with a particular focus on pancreatic cancer.

There are two major projects being pursued by the laboratory.

The first is the study of a novel class of non-coding RNAs called satellites, which were found to be highly and specifically expressed in cancers compared to normal tissues (Ting DT*, Lipson D*, et al. Science 2011; Bersani et al. PNAS 2015; Desai et al. JCI Insight 2017). This work has implications as a clinical cancer biomarker, as well as an interesting area of research to elucidate the role of these satellite RNAs in cancer biology.

The second is the study of circulating tumor cells (CTCs) using an innovative microfluidic device developed at the MGH Cancer Center. These CTCs are a means to obtain a “liquid biopsy” from our patients and serve as a source of understanding the role of these cells in metastasis. In this work we are utilizing next generation RNA-sequencing to identify new cancer biomarkers as well as therapeutic targets (Yu M*, Ting DT*, et al. Nature 2012; Ting DT et al. Cell Reports 2014; Franses J et al. Oncologist 2017).

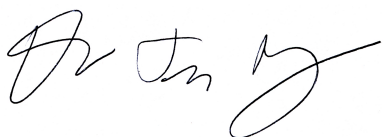
Given the integration of science and engineering in these projects, we are looking for interested researchers with a BS/BA in chemical engineering, bioengineering, chemistry, biochemistry, or biology with a background/training in quantitative science.

The applicant will be expected to become proficient in molecular biology techniques (next generation sequencing, qPCR, western blot, cell culture) and be involved with processing of human blood samples on CTC microfluidic devices. The applicant will maintain all data generated in a laboratory notebook, analyze data through a variety of computer programs (Excel, R based applications, Matlab), and participate in weekly lab meetings. It is the expectation that the applicant will assist in preparing and editing manuscripts from data generated in research projects. There will also be an option to shadow physicians at the MGH if a clinical experience is desired by the applicant. Dedicated mentorship and preparation for medical or graduate school will be provided. As a former Course 10 and 7 graduate, I appreciate the specific aspects of MIT training that are unique to a career in medicine and translational biomedical science.

The laboratory is currently composed of 3 clinical fellows, 5 post-doctoral researchers, 1 computational staff scientist, and 3 research technicians. The laboratory is located at the MGH Cancer Center, Bldg. 149, Charlestown, MA, 02129. We are looking for a 1-2 year commitment for this position. Inquires for summer positions will also be accepted.

If you are interested in this position, please email David T. Ting, MD at dting1@mgh.harvard.edu with your CV and a brief description of your goals from this research experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Ting', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David T. Ting, MD